

**Metropolitan Education Commission
Executive Board Meeting
Thursday, May 19, 2016, 7:30 a.m.
MEC Office, 930 E. Broadway Blvd., Tucson, AZ.**

MINUTES

Attendance: Members present: Dr. June Webb-Vignery, Pat Wiedhopf, Dr. Kasey Urquidez, Bill Ardern, George Favela
Members absent: Paul Lovelis, Deborah Embry.
Non-members present: Edward Nossem

1.0 CALL TO ORDER – PAT WIEDHOPF

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m.

2.0 ROLL CALL – PAT WIEDHOPF

Roll call was conducted; a quorum was established.

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – PAT WIEDHOPF

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America was recited by all attendees.

4.0 APPROVAL OF APRIL 20, 2016 MEETING MINUTES – PAT WIEDHOPF

Motion to approve: Bill Ardern

Second: George Favela

Motion approved unanimously.

5.0 MEC COMMITTEE AFTER PROPOSITION 123 VOTE – PAT WIEDHOPF

The Proposition 123 Subcommittee meeting has been postponed until the final results from the election are available. Committee members have been asked to email their thoughts on how to move forward once the results are made official.

6.0 HELIOS COLLEGE KNOWING & GOING INITIATIVE KICK-OFF – DR. JUNE WEBB-VIGNERY

The Helios Education Foundation's College Knowing and Going Initiative Southern Arizona Kickoff took place on Thursday, April 14, 2016 at Catalina High School Auditorium. Tucson Mayor Jonathan Rothschild, Pima County Supervisor Richard Elias, and Helios President & CEO Paul Luna, and former RCAC Student Ambassador Jacob Contreras spoke at the event, and the partnering school districts' Superintendents or their representatives attended, along with MEC Commissioners and other community members. Local media was in attendance, and the event was covered by the Arizona Daily Star, National Public Radio (NPR) and KOLD Channel 13. This event was important, as it highlighted the MEC's role as the Southern Arizona component of the statewide College Knowing and Going Initiative. Dr. Webb-Vignery and RCAC Coordinator David Rodriguez also attended the Phoenix CKNI Kickoff on Wednesday, April 13, 2016.

7.0 MEC RETREAT – PAT WIEDHOPF

The MEC Retreat will take place on SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 2016 at the University of Arizona Student Union Tucson/Catalina Rooms, from 7:45 a.m. to 12:00 noon. We will be inviting the School Superintendents that are part of the Helios Education Foundation's College Knowing and Going Initiative Southern Arizona component to sit on a panel to discuss the initiative and its impacts. We will also invite Mayor Rothschild, Pima County Supervisors Richard Elías and Sharon Bronson, and U of A representatives to attend. Members of the YAC/TTC will be in attendance, and we will once again request that 2 students from each of the school districts attend to represent those districts. Decisions regarding the various committees will be made in the near future.

8.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1 Collaborations – Dr. June Webb-Vignery

The MEC was not selected for the NCAN FAFSA Completion Challenge Grant, although College Success Arizona in Phoenix was selected. We will inform Mayor Rothschild and Supervisor Richard Elías of the situation.

Michelle McDonald at AmeriCorps has resigned her position, and AmeriCorps has requested that the MEC assist in the recruitment of a replacement person who has a good working knowledge of the Tucson high schools. We need to address our working relationship with United Way to make sure that our interests are in alignment.

8.2 Budget - Bill Ardern

The City of Tucson has awarded the MEC \$19,570.00 from the City Manager's Economic Development budget, and \$32,325.00 for the RCAC from the Community Services budget. Next year we will push for the entire \$51,895.00 from Community Services, and will schedule a meeting with Council Member Regina Romero to discuss this.

8.3 Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon – Dr. June Webb-Vignery

The 2016 Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon was a great success, and ran very smoothly. We collected a total of \$5,042.00 in donations from 79 very diverse donors for the Regional College Access Center. A video of the Helios Education Foundation's College Knowing and Going Initiative Southern Arizona Kickoff, which was produced by TUSD Communications & Media, was presented at the event. We have reserved Friday, April 28, 2017 at the Desert Diamond Casino & Hotel for next year's event. We discussed having the event's activities continue through the "Lunch" portion of the event in order to shorten it.

8.4 Issues – George Favela

Regarding the movement of the MEC office, City of Tucson Real Estate representative Ryan Tripp has been in contact regarding the 2711 E. Broadway Blvd. location. He emailed that he City will install flooring and paint the walls but and you would pay rent (25% of market rate) which would be approximately \$440/month. If the MEC painted and installed flooring we would still charge the same monthly rate but let's say the flooring and paint cost you \$4,500. Then the City would be able to abate the rent for about 10 months and we would start paying rent on the 11th month. This is just an example and would be subject to approval of course but this gives us an idea of our options.

8.5 RCAC – David Rodriguez

The Summer Melt Program and the CGKI will be underway soon; Felicia Ramirez will assist David Rodriguez with the Summer Melt program in the Vail School District. As we did not receive the NCAN FAFSA Completion Challenge grant, we will not be able to keep Frannie Neal on as RCAC Assistant past September, 2016. The Summer Melt program is geared primarily toward students who will be attending Pima Community College.

Executive Board members Dr. Webb-Vignery, Pat Wiedhopf, George Favela, and Paul Lovelis will be meeting with Mayor Rothschild next Monday to discuss issues.

8.6 Appointments – Deborah Embry

Sun Corridor representative Guillermo Figueroa has resigned as MEC Commissioner; George Favela will talk to CenturyLink regarding a possible replacement, and a meeting will be set up with Pima County Supervisor Sharon Bronson to discuss the issue.

8.7 YAC/TTC – Paul Lovelis

The YAC/TTC held its final 2015-16 meeting; 10 students are graduating high school and moving on. YAC/TTC members have been asked to actively recruit new members for 2016-2017.

Dr. Webb-Vignery will meet with Michelle Aguilera to discuss a subcontracting position to assist with engaging the YAC/TTC with the Mayor & Council and the Pima County Board of Supervisors on youth-related issues. We will also be meeting with the interim YAC/TTC Executive Committee members over the summer to discuss 2016-2017 activities.

8.8 Key to Employment Symposium – Ed Nossem

The 2017 K2E will take place on Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at the UA Student Union. Planning will begin in late summer 2016.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT – PAT WIEDHOPF

Motion to approve: Dr. Kasey Urquidez

Second: Bill Ardern

Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 a.m.